

accomplishments, but those who worked with him will remember and hopefully carry on his gentle nature, deliberate thinking, and dedication to the law.

I invite all members of the Senate to join me in congratulating Pat in his retirement, wishing him well and his family much success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO DENISE LOWERY

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, along with my colleague, the ranking member on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, Senator MURRAY, I wish to pay tribute to Denise Lowery. Ms. Lowery is a non-designated employee on the HELP Committee staff and is retiring at the end of this month after almost 16 years of distinguished service to the HELP Committee.

Ms. Lowery has served as editor for the committee since 2003, compiling and sending to print all our committee reports and materials for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Ms. Lowery is well regarded by all Members and staff of the committee, having proven her professionalism, courtesy, and substantial expertise over almost 16 years. Without the support of Ms. Lowery and the rest of the nondesignated staff, the committee could not accomplish the important work the American people expect us to get done on their behalf. I, the ranking member, and the rest of the committee's members want to recognize Ms. Lowery for that tremendous contribution to the Committee as she exits her time in the Senate.

I wish Ms. Lowery the best and hope retirement from the Senate will allow her time for hobbies such as working on home improvement projects and spending time with her friends and family.

I would like to yield now to my colleague, the ranking member, Senator MURRAY, for her remarks.

Mrs. MURRAY. I thank Chairman ALEXANDER and join him in commending Ms. Lowery for her many years of dedicated and outstanding service to the HELP Committee, the Senate, and the American people. I greatly appreciate the sacrifice that Ms. Lowery has made over the past 16 years in assisting the HELP Committee by applying her expertise in editing, printing, and memorializing our important work. We wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement.

We hope our colleagues will join us in thanking Ms. Lowery for her service.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANTON ART CENTER

• Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Anton Art Center in Mount Clemens, MI. I appreciate the oppor-

tunity to recognize the efforts of the Anton Art Center to fulfill their mission to enrich and inspire people of all ages through the arts.

The Anton Art Center was established in 1969 by three members of the Mount Clemens Art Association: Bea Wright, Gretchen Thompson, and Phyllis Wickens. Upon its founding, they took over occupancy of the then Mount Clemens Public Library to save the historical building from demolition. The library was built by Andrew Carnegie in 1903 and opened in 1904 and was one of approximately 2,500 libraries that Carnegie funded throughout the world. The center converted the interior to include three galleries, an art studio and meeting area, a pottery studio and kiln room, and offices. In 2006, local businessman Gebran Anton led a fundraising effort to expand the building with the addition of a gift shop, an increase in gallery space, and more classroom space. It is fitting that the center should occupy a Carnegie Library, a beautifully designed building that is now listed in the State of Michigan historic register.

The goals of the Anton Art Center are to present a wide array of programming to appeal to diverse audiences, provide support for the arts, and become a focal point for arts programming and work toward inclusion, diversity, equity, and access in all they do. Through its many programs, the Anton Art Center has become a leading advocate of the arts and artists in Macomb County and throughout the surrounding area. In addition to traditional artist exhibitions, the center offers a multitude of programs for artists to showcase their work to the public. There are multiple juried statewide competitions, as well as two annual events that include the ART! Macomb Art Fair and holiday market. The center's gift shop offers yet more opportunity for the community to support local artists. The center also supports the aspiring artist inside many of us by offering adult and child classes in many mediums including clay, drawing, mixed media, photography, weaving, and watercolor.

The Anton Art Center also serves as the Region 10A Re-granting Agency for the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, MCACA. As such, they award mini-grants to nonprofit organizations, schools, municipalities, and individual professional artists in Macomb and Oakland Counties in support of arts and culture programming and professional or organizational development. They also provide technical assistance to organizations applying for funding through this program.

I am pleased to rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Anton Art Center. They have been a staple of the arts and cultural scene in Macomb County for half a century, and I wish them continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO SANDRA CARAWAN

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Sandra Carawan, the Gilchrist County teacher of the year from Bell Elementary School in Bell, FL.

Sandra is dedicated to her students, working closely with them each day to help solve their problems. Her colleagues describe her as a tremendous asset and someone who will help in any way she can, whether as a teacher or with administrative duties. She was named Bell Elementary School's teacher of the year in addition to receiving the award for the district.

A fifth grade exceptional student education teacher, Sandra acts as the lead teacher for her grade level. She also serves as Bell Elementary School advisory chair, safety patrol sponsor, district 21st century evaluator/coordinator, a positive behavior support team member, and a data evaluator for the entire Gilchrist County School District. She graduated from Saint Leo University, earning her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education in 1999 and her master of education degree in 2007.

I convey my best wishes to Sandra for her dedication to her students and school. I look forward to hearing of this continued success.●

TRIBUTE TO LILLY CHAPPELL

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Lilly Chappell, the Bradford County teacher of the year from Southside Elementary School in Starke, FL.

Lilly has enjoyed spreading her passion for learning to others throughout her whole life. She has spent 11 years with the Southside Parent Teacher Organization, helping to build a playground and sound system for students, directing musicals with more than 250 students, and making herself available for a variety of other extracurricular events throughout the school year.

Lilly has taught in Bradford County for 20 years, beginning as a writing coach. She has served at Southside Elementary School as the lead teacher in fourth and fifth grade, the K-5 county gifted instructor, 5th grade English language arts, and as a history teacher. She attended the University of Florida and University of North Florida, studying public relations and elementary 1-6 education. As a result of her teaching and mentoring over the years, several of the students she previously taught have now become her colleagues.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Lilly for her years of dedication to her student. I look forward to hearing of her continued good work in the coming years.●

TRIBUTE TO NICOLE KENNGOTT

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Nicole Kenngott, the Pinellas County teacher of the year from Plumb Elementary School in Clearwater, FL.

Nicole specializes in deaf studies and special-needs education. She uses innovative, research-based teaching methods to educate her students. She designs lesson plans to promote continuous learning in a teaching environment meant to encourage and inspire her students.

Nicole works with students to identify their fears in order to foster a better growth mindset and develop an enthusiasm for learning. Last year, 60 percent of her students earned a level three or higher on the State English test, compared to 51 percent in Pinellas County schools.

Nicole earned her master's degree from Dowling College and has taught at Plumb Elementary School for 3 years. She follows a teaching style based on a growth mindset and Conversation, Help, Activity, Movement, Participation, and Success or CHAMPS. She also uses the strategies of Advanced Via Individual Determination teaching and restorative practices.

I express my sincere gratitude to Nicole for her commitment to helping her students succeed in school. I look forward to learning of her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MELISSA PAPPAS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Melissa Pappas, the Orange County teacher of the year from Brookshire Elementary School in Winter Park, FL.

Melissa is a K-5 intensive autism teacher that works with children with severe behavioral functional and academic needs. She is motivated by her passion for her students and is responsible for one of only five intensive units districtwide, serving students with severe behavioral, functional, and academic needs. She believes teaching is not only a profession that teaches all other professions, but the one with the power to shape the future for all types of learners.

In the past year, she launched a schoolwide initiative during Autism Awareness Month to educate members of the school community to promote acceptance, love, and understanding of those with autism and special needs. As a result of the initiative, many students performed random acts of kindness and engaged students with exceptionalities.

I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to Melissa for her devotion to helping her students succeed in life. I look forward to learning of her continued success in the coming years.●

TRIBUTE TO LAURA WYKOFF

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Laura Wykoff, the Alachua County teacher of the year from Fort Clarke Middle School in Gainesville, FL.

Laura keeps letters from her students to remind her of the importance of her job. After receiving this award,

she shared many of these letters with those in attendance at the award ceremony. The letters consist of humorous ones on learning about integers, algebra, and other math subjects to serious ones about how, if it was not for Laura, they would not have been successful in school. She considers these examples as an important reason for why she does her job.

Laura considers teaching her students and realizing that they understand something and that makes a student feel good about themselves as the best part of the job. At the award ceremony, one of her former students credited Laura with his success and noted that she has always been there for him.

Laura has taught for more than 10 years and is currently a seventh and eighth grade mathematics teacher at Fort Clarke Middle School, where she has been since 2015. Her family consists of a long line of academics, and Laura believes teaching is in their blood.

I offer my sincere thanks and gratitude to Laura for her dedication to her students throughout her career. I look forward to hearing of her continued success in the years ahead.●

RECOGNIZING SOUTHERN CRAFT CREAMERY

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as chairman of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize a small business that exemplifies the unique American entrepreneurial spirit. It is my privilege to honor a Florida small business that not only produces an amazing product, but also tirelessly serves their community. Today, I recognize Southern Craft Creamery, of Marianna, FL, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Founded in 2012, Southern Craft Creamery is owned and operated by Dale and Cindy Eade, with the help of their children. After selling their handcrafted ice cream wholesale for 6 years, the Eade family opened its first brick-and-mortar location last February.

Southern Craft Creamery is a true family-run business. While Dale and Cindy's daughter, Megan Austin, along with her husband Brad, currently manage Cindale Farms, a local dairy farm where Southern Craft Creamery sources its milk, Lauren and Zach O'Bryan, Dale and Cindy's daughter and son-in-law, initially launched the ice cream brand. Having been involved in the Florida dairy business since 1980, it is no surprise that the Eade family's ice cream is crafted to showcase the quality milk they produce and the delicious southern ingredients they grew up with.

Today, Southern Craft Creamery sells a wide variety of signature ice cream flavors including tupelo honey, salty caramel, and candied bacon, as well as seasonal flavors such as raspberry basil, bourbon butter pecan, and blackberry buttermilk.

Southern Craft Creamery has been repeatedly recognized for these deli-

cious flavors, being named the overall food winner in the 2013 Made in the South Awards by "Garden & Gun" magazine and by "Southern Living" magazine in the Best Sweets category for the magazine's 2015 food awards.

Southern Craft Creamery creates these remarkable ice cream flavors by sourcing many of their ingredients from other local, family-owned small businesses. Working with local farmers and producers has allowed Southern Craft Creamery to give back to their community while also receiving the freshest and most flavorful ingredients available. They also work with regional, family-owned retailers to sell their ice cream throughout Florida.

Southern Craft Creamery and the Eade family seek to give back to their community in any way possible. After Hurricane Michael devastated their community, they gathered supplies for victims, opened their doors to allow residents to cool off, and offered free coffee and ice cream to first responders. Prior to December 2018, Southern Craft donated all of their tips to Partners for Pets, a nonprofit animal shelter in Marianna. Since December 2018, however, all of their tips have been donated to Friends of the Florida Caverns State Park in an effort to assist in replanting trees and repair damages caused by Hurricane Michael.

The Eade family's work to grow Southern Craft Creamery, support local farmers, and aid members of their community is an excellent example of civic dedication. Companies like Southern Craft Creamery are the heartbeat of local, small-town communities across Florida. I would like to congratulate Southern Craft Creamery on their 1-year anniversary of opening their storefront and for being named the Senate Small Business of the Week. I wish them good luck and look forward to watching their continued growth and success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of